



Tapu!tea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

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2006

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Vol. I, No. 17



ASCC President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i (front, right) meets with members of her staff. The College recently received permission from WASC to offer classes towards a BA degree in Teacher Education. (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)

WASC Gives ASCC Approval to Proceed Towards First Bachelor's Degree

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer

The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) has reached a milestone in a series of crucial steps towards its goal of establishing a Bachelor's (BA) degree. President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i recently received a letter from Dr. Barbara Beno, President of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACJCC), a division of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Dr. Beno wrote that the ACJCC, "at its meeting on June 7-9, 2006, considered the request of ASCC to develop a single baccalaureate program in Education, and to seek joint accreditation by the ACCJC and the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities (ACSCU) of WASC. The Commission took action to approve the request. ASCC may proceed to the next step, which is to develop a Substantive Change Report for the ACCJC and an Eligibility Report for the ACSCU."

"The ACCJC decision does not change ASCC from a two-year to a four-year college overnight," clarified Dr. Satele-Galea'i, "but in the area of Teacher Education, it means we can begin offering third and fourth-year classes toward a BA degree. Both the ACCJC and ACSCU will subsequently review this program while it is in progress, to determine whether it meets the criteria set by both accreditation bodies."

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Governor Togiola Tulafono kicks off soccer Project Goal at Pago Park

Governor Togiola Tulafono joined the American Samoa Football (Soccer) Association, Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) officials and members of the public on Thursday, July 13th, in breaking ground on Project Goal at Pago Pago Park.

Project Goal, a FIFA development effort, offers tailor-made programs that are cut out to suit the individual country's needs and then implemented by FIFA experts in close cooperation with the national associations, of which 205 countries --(American Samoa being the 205th country and also its ranking number before the recent World)-- are members of the world soccer (football) body.

Project Goal at Pago Park includes the construction of two soccer fields, or pitches as they are also called. One pitch will be utilized for practice and the other will be used for tournament and official matches. Also to be constructed on the site are a grandstand and bleachers for spectators as well as an administration building for the American Samoa Football Association to run its local program. All told, the capital investment in Project Goal will top \$1 million when all construction is completed.

Governor Togiola gave praise to the project because, in his words, "brings hope to the three years of turmoil that we've been through on island with our soccer associations and the struggle for control of the sport that is played by the most people worldwide."

"This is a blessing for our island community because it now empowers our national associations to truly develop the sport with genuine priorities and accept help through FIFA on what our true needs are," Governor Togiola. "Here we're getting help in infrastructure, administration, education and youth football (soccer). We truly need all of the cooperation of the local soccer associations and we need to strengthen that cooperation with each association and the development of the game in American Samoa."

Governor Togiola said Project Goal is an awesome opportunity for the people and especially the youth of American Samoa.

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HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On July 13, 1893, Mata'afa Iosefo was captured on Savai'i, having fled there from Manono during yet another of Samoa's European-inspired 19th century civil wars. On July 26, 1893, he was deported to Jaluit in the Marshall Islands, along with his daughter and 11 others.

On July 14, 1875, Albert B. Steinberger, special envoy of U. S. President Ulysses S. Grant, became Premier of Samoa.

On July 14, 1904, Tui Manu'a Elisara signed the Deed of Cession, ceding the Manu'a Islands to the United States.

On July 14, 1913, Commander Clark Daniel Stearns relieved Lieutenant Nathan Woodworth Post, and became American Samoa's ninth naval governor (until October 2, 1914).

On July 14, 1932, New Zealand's Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs, George Forbes, realizing that Western Samoan *Manu* leader O.F. Nelson's term of exile would be finished at the end of 1932, tried unsuccessfully to extend his term of deportation.

On July 15, 1944, the U.S. Navy's VS-51 (Scouting Squadron 51) detachment "was discontinued at Upolu. All planes and personnel were returned to Tutuila for duty at VS-51 headquarters."

On July 15, 1952, Gary Cooper arrived at Faleolo Airport in Western Samoa to begin filming *Return to Paradise* at Lefaga Beach.

On July 16, 1883, Sisters Mary St. Vincent, St. Claire and St. Thérèse left Apia "to establish a house of NDO (*Notre Dame d'Océanie* [Our Lady of Oceania]) at Leone, Tutuila."

On July 16, 1904, Manu'a's Deed of Cession, having been signed by Tui Manu'a Elisara on July 14, 1904, was registered at American Samoa's Courthouse by Secretary of Native Affairs Edwin William Gurr.

On July 16, 1952, John C. Elliott took office as American Samoa's second appointed civil governor (until November 23, 1952).

On July 17, 1911, in his "Annual Report to the Secretary of the Navy," (George von L. Meyer) American Samoa's Governor, Commander William Michael Crose, reported on the Fita Fita Guard as follows: "A noticeable improvement has been effected in the teaching of the English language to the members of the Native Guard. The instruction has been, and is, in charge of the Chaplain. He now holds two instruction periods daily, of one hour each, and more interest is shown by the fitafitas than formerly. An attempt will be made to have a limited conversational knowledge of English a requirement for re-enlistment, but it seems next to impossible for some of the fitafitas to learn English...Instruction in wig-wag signalling has begun, and some of the Guard are able to send and receive messages, signalling slowly. Signal parties are today on two mountain peaks--Matafao and Tuao--signalling to each other. Practice marches have been instituted, and the fitafitas are gaining much more extended knowledge of the trails on the island. Small-arm target practice will be taken up during this year. The Band plays very well, considering the material from which it is made. Samoans do not play any musical instruments except the harmonica, and have no knowledge of written music, so the difficulties confronting a bandmaster may be appreciated. Some of the bandsmen have been in this band since it was established in 1902. The Band has twice given concerts in Apia, and was complimented upon its performance. It is taken to Manu'a when the station ship goes to that Island. There is a great demand for duty in the fitafitas, and we have no trouble in getting the best of the young men of the Island to enlist."

On July 18, 1962, the first jet aircraft to land at Pago Pago International Airport was a Boeing 707 carrying Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall.

On July 19, 1912, Commander William Michael Crose, Governor of American Samoa, issued his "Regulation No. 3-1912: Taxation of Visitors."

OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS PRESS RELEASE:**DOI CONFERENCE TO SHOWCASE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ISLANDS**

(Washington, D.C., August 17, 2007) The Department of the Interior is pleased to announce that registrations have opened for the 2006 Conference on Business Opportunities in the Islands. The Conference will showcase business opportunities in the seven island jurisdictions for which the Department has responsibility and focus on win-win opportunities that benefit both the mainland and the islands.

The Conference will be held on November 13-14, 2006 at the Waikiki Marriott in Honolulu, and will include industry experts and local businesspeople speaking on tourism and real estate development, infrastructure development, tax incentives, utilities and telecommunications, among other topics. The islands present numerous attractive opportunities for Hawaii and mainland business people including:

- **Tourism.** The increasing popularity of specialty tourism, including cruises and scuba diving, coupled with growing demand from China and other Asian countries, indicates strong potential for tourism in the islands. Local island-based entrepreneurs are seeking partners in marketing and real estate development.
- **High Tech/Broadband.** The spread of technology is opening up new opportunities, as advanced telecommunications help to bridge the considerable geographic distances between islands. The U.S. Virgin Islands is connected to the second-largest broadband pipe in the world, and American Samoa, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia are all undertaking aggressive programs to improve their communications capacity, opening new avenues for investment and growth.
- **Infrastructure Development and Improvement.** The governments of the insular areas will be seeking to upgrade and possibly privatize large segments of their existing water, power, and transportation infrastructure. This will include growth in the use of new technologies to supply water and power, and innovative financing to better leverage existing assets.
- **Contracting opportunities**, especially with the growth of the military presence on Guam.

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ASCC President
Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i
recently received a letter
from WASC granting
ASCC permission to offer
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(Photo: J. Kneubuhl)

ASCC

(from page 1)

WASC utilizes two separate accrediting bodies, the ACJCC, which reviews the eligibility of community and junior colleges offering two-year programs, and the ACSCU, which applies additional requirements to institutions that offer four-year programs. Dr. Beno's mention of "joint accreditation" refers to the process whereby the ACJCC will continue its regularly-scheduled evaluations of ASCC's two-year programs, while only the soon-to-be-offered third and fourth-year classes in the Teacher Education Department will be subject to review by the ACSCU.

The College's Teacher Education Department began offering classes in 2001, and enrollment in the program has increased steadily with each semester. ASCC also currently hosts the American Samoa Teacher Education Program (ASTEP) and the University of Hawaii Cohort Program, both of which offer opportunities for teachers currently in-service to upgrade their credentials. "Some may wonder why we've established a Teacher Education Department when ASTEP and UH Cohort already exist," explained Dr. Satele-Galea'i. "The difference is really quite simple. By design, ASTEP and UH Cohort serve teachers already working, whereas our Teacher Education Department serves undergraduates who want to earn their Associate of Arts (AA) degree in that field."

The ASCC President recalled how the College administration has been working towards the goal of offering its first BA degree now for more than a decade. "It's simply a long process," she said. "For any kind of change in accreditation, WASC requires that an institution develop a program that meets their standards, which include having adequate resources. ASCC has chosen to develop its first four-year program in the area of Teacher Education because we recognize the need for more personnel with advanced credentials in the Territory's schools. We have in mind the overall well-being of our community in the long run, and we hope the community in return will offer us its support."

While Dr. Satele-Galea'i emphasized that efforts in moving ASCC in the direction of a four-year institution have involved the hard work of numerous individuals over many years, in a memo to her faculty and staff she recognized the contributions of Vice President Dr. Seth Galea'i, Teacher Education Department Chairman Tupua Roy Fua and Education specialist Dr. Vena Sele towards ASCC reaching this latest milestone.

(ASPA PRESS RELEASE)

Andra Samoa Unanimously Selected by ASPA Board of Directors as new CEO

Fepulea'i Afa Ripley Jr., Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Samoa Power Authority, said today that the "The Samoa News needs to get new and accurate sources at ASPA."

Fepulea'i read the Samoa News article that reported:

"Samoa News' sources said Ms. Samoa's appointment was not unanimous. The board chairman Fepulea'i A. Ripley and the mainland member were reported to be out voted by the senior board members, Leulua'iali'i Morris Scanlan, Seigafolava Joe Yandall and Dr. Norman Okamura, 3-2. Seigafolava nominated Ms. Samoa."

Fepulea'i said that "The Board deliberations are confidential and covered by Executive Privilege. However, the Board has authorized me to say, for the record, that Ms. Samoa was unanimously selected by the Board of Directors. The so-called 'unnamed sources' are completely wrong."

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Project Goal

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“This fits right in with promoting wellness among the Territory’s youth by encouraging physical fitness and rigorous physical activity,” said Governor Togiola. “In addition, our young children will learn sportsmanship, gamesmanship and leadership through the truly international game of soccer.”

Leading the FIFA delegation at the ground breaking was Mr. Glenn Turner, who is the FIFA Development Officer for Oceania, and Mr. Ray Vuksich of Vuksich & Borich New Zealand Ltd., who is the FIFA Project Goal Manager. Chair of the American Samoa Football Normalization Committee is Mr. David Brand.

“I extend my gratitude to Glenn, Ray and David Brand and all the members of the American Samoa Football Normalization Committee who made this possible. It is our sincere hope that all of our contributions on this day will pay off for years to come,” said Governor Togiola. “We should be proud of our new ranking from 205th in the world, according to FIFA, American Samoa is now ranked 196th. So, you see, we’re already making progress. It all starts off with a dream. It’s realistic that we can win the World Cup in 16 years. We need to develop the game.”

Paramount Chief Mauga Tasi Asuega of Maoputasi County also attended the ground breaking ceremony offering the support of the county and village of Pago Pago in the project.

FIFA Oceania Development Officer Mr. Glenn Turner expressed his appreciation for the local support for this much-needed project for the Territory.

“We are very happy to have completed the groundbreaking on this significant project. We would like to thank Governor Togiola for his earnest support of our efforts to bring the great game of soccer to the Territory. We all look forward to many successful years of soccer in American Samoa,” said Turner.

DOI CONFERENCE

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This Conference is the latest in a series of events sponsored by the Department of the Interior aimed at stimulating private sector-led economic development in the U.S.-affiliated insular areas. An on-line registration form and more information on the conference can be found online at <http://www.BusinessOpportunitiesConference.com>. The Department has hosted two previous Conferences and led three Business Opportunities Missions to five island jurisdictions over the last three years. These events have included a diverse sampling of the American business community, from industry leaders like Fluor, Microsoft and Starwood Hotels to smaller, specialized technology and tourism firms.

Both the Missions and the Conferences are designed to put business opportunities in the insular areas “on the map” and to provide venues where businesspeople from both the mainland and the islands can meet, forge partnerships, and do business. The goal is to stimulate private sector-led economic development in all of the insular areas through stronger links to the Hawaii and mainland business community.

The Secretary of the Interior has administrative responsibility for coordinating Federal policy in the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the responsibility to administer and oversee assistance provided to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The Office of Insular Affairs executes these responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary.

Share important activities

with our ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa.

Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information to:

tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as

Deadline for submissions is Thursday @ noon.

contact Harry Stevens @733-1694

or

Vince Iuli @ 733-1041

ASG RADIO PROGRAM

With: Governor Togiola Tulafono
Saturdays @ 7a.m.

On: Showers of Blessings-FM 104.7
Call 699-8123 or 699-8124

